

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application and are presented for examination.
Claim 1 stands rejected.

Reconsideration and further examination of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments to the claims. A Request for Continued Examination is submitted herewith, together with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants believe no new matter is presented in the present amendment.

Applicants thank the examiner for the recent interview conducted by William Kezer with the examiner, in which the amendments to claim 1 were discussed and in which Applicants understood the examiner found acceptable.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being unclear as to which product was made, particularly with respect to diastereomers. The above amendment specifies that the product of the process is a member selected from a group of named diastereomers and is produced in a diastereomeric excess.

Applicants understand that this amendment should make claim 1 allowable. The examiner has already indicated allowance or allowability of the remaining claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel G. Ackerman
Reg. No. 24,307

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200 ext. 4057
Fax: 415-576-0300
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60030741 v1